AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An oil-impregnated sintered bearing comprising:

a bearing body made of a sintered metal to support a rotating shaft by an inner surface thereof as a friction surface, said bearing body having a bearing hole therein;

wherein the bearing hole includes a journal part that has a constant diameter, and enlarged diameter parts that are provided on both sides of the journal part in the longitudinal direction thereof, respectively, so as to be connected with the journal part; and

cavities exposed on an inner surface of the enlarged diameter parts having a smaller size and a lower density than those of cavities exposed on an inner surface of the journal part.

2. (Currently Amended) The oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 1,

wherein ~~the enlarged diameter parts are provided on both sides of the journal part in the longitudinal direction thereof, respectively,~~

a taper angle with respect to the longitudinal direction of one enlarged diameter part, which is provided on one side of the journal part, and a taper angle with respect to the longitudinal direction of the other enlarged diameter, which is provided on the other side of the journal part, are equal to each other, and

a line obliquely extending along an inclined surface of one enlarged diameter part is arranged parallel to a line obliquely extending along an inclined surface of the other enlarged diameter part, and a distance between the line is substantially equal to the diameter of the rotating shaft.

3.(Currently Amended) The oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 1,

wherein a shortest distance between [the] a line obliquely extending along an inclined surface of one of the enlarged diameter parts and the journal part ~~facing the inclined surface of the enlarged diameter part~~ across [the] a middle axis of the bearing body is substantially equal to the diameter of the rotating shaft.

4. (Currently Amended) The oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 1, wherein [the] taper angles of the enlarged diameter parts with respect to [the] a longitudinal direction of the enlarged diameter parts are 3° or less.

5. (Currently Amended) The oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 1, wherein each of the enlarged diameter parts ~~are formed~~ has taper angles which change stepwise ~~so that the taper angles~~ with respect to ~~the~~ a longitudinal direction of the enlarged diameter parts ~~are different from each other~~ such that the taper angle increases with increasing distance from the journal part ~~, and~~

~~the enlarged diameter parts are positioned farther from the journal part has a larger taper angle~~.

6. (Previously presented) The oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 5, wherein the enlarged diameter parts are formed so that the difference between the taper angles of adjacent enlarged diameter parts is 3° or less.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing an oil-impregnated sintered bearing which includes a bearing body made of a sintered metal to support a rotating shaft, the bearing body having a bearing hole formed therein, the bearing hole including a journal part of which an inner surface as a friction surface has a constant diameter and enlarged diameter parts that are provided so as to be connected with the journal part and are formed in a tapered shape having diameters to be enlarged toward the tips thereof, comprising:

forming a bearing hole that includes the journal part having a constant diameter by pressing an inner circumferential surface of a cylindrical sintered body completely sintered; and

forming the enlarged diameter parts so as to be connected with the journal part by re-pressing the inner circumferential surface of the cylindrical sintered body.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of manufacturing an oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 7,

wherein substantially cone-shaped press dies each having a base having a diameter larger than the inner diameter of the sintered body are used for forming the enlarged diameter parts.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of manufacturing an oil-impregnated sintered bearing according to claim 8,

wherein the press dies are simultaneously inserted from both sides of the sintered body, respectively, and the tips of the press dies are pushed against the inner circumferential surface of the sintered body so as not to come into contact with each other.

10. (Currently Amended) An oil-impregnated sintered bearing which includes a bearing body made of a sintered metal to support a rotating shaft, the bearing body having a bearing hole formed therein, the bearing hole including a journal part of which an inner surface as a friction surface has a constant diameter and enlarged diameter parts that are provided so as to be connected with the journal part and are formed in a tapered shape having diameters to be enlarged toward the tips thereof,

wherein the bearing hole that includes the journal part having a constant diameter is formed by pressing an inner circumferential surface of a cylindrical sintered body completely sintered ~~is formed~~; wherein [and]

the enlarged diameter parts so as to be connected with the journal part are formed by re-pressing the inner circumferential surface of the cylindrical sintered body ~~is formed~~; and

cavities exposed on an inner surface of the enlarged diameter parts have smaller size and density than those of cavities exposed on an inner surface of the journal part.